



## Richard Prather Medford

November 8, 1947 - May 12, 2020

Richard Prather Medford passed away on Tuesday, May 12, 2020, in Fairfield, Texas.

Rick was born November 8, 1947 in Madisonville, Texas, to Isom Eugene “Gene” Medford and Mattie Bea Prather Medford. He spent his early years living at the family farm in Leon County, where he developed his love of family and the outdoors. He graduated Huntsville High School in 1966 and continued on to Texas A&M University, where he was a member of the Corps of Cadets, earning a degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1970. His love of A&M, through the friends he developed during his college years and the Aggies he met on his life journey, continued throughout his life. He served active duty and in the reserves as a paratrooper in the Texas National Guard.

After graduating from A&M, he began his career with Brown & Root working at Big Brown power plant in Fairfield, when one day while eating at Sam’s Restaurant, he met Julie Ann Childs. As Julie Ann always said, “Rick didn’t know if it was indigestion or love, but his heart burned for three days” after meeting her. They were married in Fairfield, Texas, on July 7, 1973.

Rick enjoyed a successful career as a Certified Engineer with Brown & Root, Inc. in Houston, where he retired, and in Glen Rose at Comanche Peak, where he was head of construction over the nuclear program. He later worked

with Zachary as a consultant. He spent his retirement working cattle on the family farm. A life-long learner, he attended South Texas College of Law, had his appraisal license and his real estate license, and was always reading a new history book.

After living in Houston for 16 years and Granbury, he made Fairfield his home, where he loved spending time with his coffee group, running errands to Capps, and visiting and traveling with his family. His life took him on many adventures, including being hijacked to Cuba in the 1980s on a business trip.

He was an active member of First United Methodist Church in Fairfield, where he served as a long-time Sunday School Teacher for the high school class and later for the Angie Mae Bonner class. He also served on the church building committee. Always up for the commitments Julie Ann made for them, he loved being Santa Claus with Julie Ann by his side as Mrs. Claus every December for the Old Bowling Community. Rick was a devoted husband, a loving father, a fun Paw-Paw, a life-long Aggie, a faithful Christian, and a loyal friend. He will be missed by many.

He is preceded in death by his parents, Gene Medford and Mattie Bea Medford.

He is survived by his wife of 46 years, Julie Ann; one daughter, Kathleen Medford Burrell and husband Eric; one son, Tom; his two granddaughters, Harper Ann and Elizabeth Prather Burrell, and a treasure trove of cousins, friends and colleagues.

Visitation will be on Saturday, May 16, 2020, from 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home in Fairfield. Graveside services will be held at Fairfield Cemetery on Sunday, May 17, 2020, at 1:00 p.m. Pallbearers are his Aggie friends:

Dennis Gloyna, Dr. David Lovett, Erwin Zoch, John Martin, Martin Svatek, Burt

Richards

Fred Galley, Mark Phillips and Randy Maness. A memorial service will be held later this summer at First United Methodist Church in Fairfield.

The family asks for memorials to be made to First United Methodist Church or to the Old Bowling Cemetery Building Fund.

# Cemetery Details

## Fairfield Cemetery

500 East Reunion  
Fairfield, TX 75840

# Previous Events

## Visitation

**MAY 16.** 1:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CT)

Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home, Fairfield  
450 East Main Street  
Fairfield, TX 75840  
(903) 389-9217  
[info@griffin-roughton.com](mailto:info@griffin-roughton.com)

## Graveside Funeral Service

**MAY 17.** 1:00 PM (CT)

Fairfield Cemetery  
500 East Reunion  
Fairfield, TX 75840

# Tribute Wall



“ *Richard Prather Medford*

October 08, 2023 at 12:04 PM



“ *60 files added to the album Life Tributes*



Griffin-Roughton Funeral Home - June 26, 2020 at 11:41 AM



“ *Dearest Julie Ann and family,  
We hurt for you. You are in our prayers  
because you are in our hearts.  
Rick was very personal.  
You were an endearing couple and the  
laughter you shared will be a joy  
forever.  
God 's hand never lets go of yours. He goes before you as well as  
with you.  
We love you.  
Mike & Kathy A.*



Mike & Kathy Arrington - May 16, 2020 at 06:11 PM

 Julie Steward

“ We will miss your smiles and joyful greetings at the Church doors. Rick was the first man’s hand I shook when I was a boy that gripped and smiled back at me when I firmly tried to outgrip him. Still revisit that moment today and thought of it every time I shook his hand (he still outgripped me today)! A few years ago my wife and I were looking for a wonderful married couple to try to emulate...after countless couples we put Rick and Julie Ann’s marriage as our beacon. True loving Christian husband/Father/son/patriotic/friendly man! See ya at the gates! XOXO, Steward Family

Julie Steward - May 16, 2020 at 01:41 PM



“ When Rick was a little boy I thought he was too pretty to be a boy. We saw each other occasionally but he was always my cousin...several times removed. He was a smart man who loved family. I know he will be missed by many, Another family member younger than me gone too soon,.

Bonnie Tittle - May 15, 2020 at 10:06 PM



“ Peaceful White Lilies Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Prather Medford.



May 15, 2020 at 06:58 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Prather Medford.*



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May 15, 2020 at 01:26 PM



“ *Dear Julie Ann and Family,  
I am thinking of you and sending you and your family my love.  
Patricia Watson*

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**Patricia Watson** - May 15, 2020 at 10:58 AM



“ *I worked for Rick @ Comanche Peak Power Plant and we later ran into each other at the Airport in Amarillo, Texas where we had a few visits over lunch while we were both working there for different companies. My thoughts and prayers to the Family. Rick was great man and will be missed. R.I.P. my friend.*

*Irving Massart*

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**Irving Massart** - May 14, 2020 at 04:14 PM



“ *Julie Ann & Kathleen,  
I am so sorry to hear of Rick's passing. I didn't know him but I have always heard about him through both of ya'll. My prayers will be with you and all the family and friends. I sure do miss our physical therapy sessions Julie Ann.  
Know I am thinking of ya'll  
Bobbi Shepherd*

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**BOBBI SHEPHERD** - May 14, 2020 at 03:04 PM

TR

“ It was just the other day that I spoke with Mr. Medford on the phone. "I told him my prayer was for him to go into remission. I will miss seeing his smiling face on Sunday mornings.

*Mrs. Julie Ann may prayers go out to you in the family. I pray that God wraps his loving arms around you and give you comfort and peace. Please let the wonderful memories you have of Mr. Medford guide you.*

*Love you,  
Tonya*

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**Tonya Roberts** - May 14, 2020 at 12:23 PM

TR

“ *Tonya Roberts lit a candle in memory of Richard Prather Medford*



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**Tonya Roberts** - May 14, 2020 at 12:19 PM



“ *Lavender Reflections Spray was purchased for the family of Richard Prather Medford.*



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May 14, 2020 at 12:10 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Richard Prather Medford.*



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May 14, 2020 at 12:08 PM

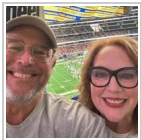


“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Richard Prather Medford.*



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May 14, 2020 at 12:02 PM



“ *Thoughts and prayers are with you and yours Julie Ann. Rick was indeed a blessing as my friend, mentor and boss. His exemplary leadership provided many contributions throughout his career and life. May many fond memories of this great man continue to fill and warm our hearts. We love y'all.*

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**Larry Smith** - May 14, 2020 at 11:49 AM



“ *Julie Ann and all members of the family, my prayers and condolences on Rick's passing. May the Lord be with You .*



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**Dan B. Willard** - May 14, 2020 at 10:40 AM

BP

“ Our prayers go out to Julie Ann and his family and friends. Praying for peace, comfort and strength that only God can give.

*Bill & Terry Payne*

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**Bill and Terry Payne** - May 13, 2020 at 09:51 PM

BP

“ *Bill & Terry Payne lit a candle in memory of Richard Prather Medford*



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**Bill & Terry Payne** - May 13, 2020 at 09:32 PM